Green belt land for oil refinery

390. SHRI THENNALA G. BALAKRISHNA PILLAI: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that every oil refinery requires a Green belt land;

(b) if so, whether all the oil refineries in India have fulfilled this specification; and

(c) if any oil refinary has not fulfilled this specification what action would be taken?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL):

(a) to (c) Mandatory acquisition of Green belt has been notified by Central Pollution Control Board under Environment Protection (EP) Act, 1986. The refineries, which have been established after promulgation of this Act, are obliged to fulfill this requirement.

The refineries commissioned after 1986 have provided for Green belt in line with the stipulations laid down in the EP Act, 1986.

The above Act is not obligatory to refineries established prior to EP Act, 1986. However, these refineries have undertaken tree plantation surrounding the refineries to mitigate environmental emissions.

Price rise of petrol and diesel

†391. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the extent of rise in prices of petrol and diesel during the last three years;

(b) whether Government have any plan to control ever increasing prices; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) The major price revisions carried out for petrol and diesel during the last three years are as under:

	Retail selling Price at Delhi (Rs./litre)	
	Petrol	Diesel
1	2	3
Price as on 01.04.04	33.70	21.73
Revisions thereafter		
16.06.04	35.71	22.74

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

1	2	3
01.08.04	36.81	24.16
05.11.04	39.00	26.28
16.11.04	37.84	–
21.06.05	40.49	28.45
07.09.05	43.49	30.45
06.06.06	47.51	32.47
30.11.06	44.85	31.25
16.02.07	42.85	30.25
Current price (price revised on account of VAT revision)	43.52	30.48

(Price revisions on account of VAT/sales tax, revision in siding/shunting charges not considered)

(b) and (c) Government has been taking all possible measures to ensure that there is no hardship to common man on account of price rise. Government adopted the principle of equitable burden sharing amongst three stakeholders, namely, the consumers, the PSU oil companies and the Government to protect the interest of the common man and the vulnerable sections of society. Government is closely monitoring the international oil prices and will continue to protect the interests of consumers.

Gas from Myanmar

392. SHRI R. SHUNMUGASUNDARAM: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Ministry has failed to take adequate efforts to bid for gas exported from Blocks 41 and 43 of Myanmar;

(b) if so, how much gas India failed to import from Myanmar; and

(c) whether any further bid will be made to import gas from Myanmar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI DINSHA J. PATEL): (a) and (b) Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas has keenly pursued the import of natural gas from Myanmar. Government of Myanmar issued a Letter of Intent on February 11,2004 and subsequently signed an MoU on March 9, 2006 during the visit of President of India to Myanmar, acknowledging GAIL as a preferential buyer of gas from A1 and A3 blocks in Myanmar.

However, in August 2006, Myanmar invited bids for selling 15.8MMSCMD natural gas from A1 and A3 offshore blocks through the pipeline route. GAIL submitted its bid. Subsequently, Government of Myanmar reviewed their decision to sell this gas through the pipeline route and invited bids for sale of 3.5 MMTPA of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG). GAIL again submitted its bid. The matter was discussed in various meetings held between Government of Myanmar and Consortium in January, February and March, 2007.